

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 03063 251011Z

11

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN ENRG OECD SZ

SUBJ: IEA AD HOC GROUP ON FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT ISSUES, SWISS

REACTION TO MESSAGE FROM TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY,

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PAGE 02 BERN 03063 251011Z

AND SWISS PARTICIPATION IN RESUMED DIALOGUE

REF: STATE 171614

1. THE SWISS FULLY SUPPORT THE EFFORT TO MOVE THE WORK OF THIS GROUP FORWARD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. THEY (LANGUETIN AND ROSSIER) BELIEVE THE ROLE OF THE AD HOC GROUP SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING JULY 28-29.

2. AS FOR ISSUES OF SUBSTANCE, LANGUETIN HOPES FOR A DEBATE ON THOSE ISSUES COVERING THE ENTIRE RANGE OF SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT, "THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE," IEA-GB (75) 44. (THIS PAPER HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED BY EMBASSY BERN). LANGUETIN SAID THAT HE WAS NOT CLEAR AS TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SECRETARIAT NOTE, WHICH HE SAID HAD NOT BEEN A SUBJECT OF DEBATE AS YET, AND IN PARTICULAR ITS SECTION ON FINANCIAL ISSUES, AND THE PROPOSALS IN THE MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY. IN HIS VIEW THEY SHOULD BE RELATED, AND THOSE FROM THE SECRETARIAT NOTE CONSIDERED RELEVANT SHOULD BE COVERED IN THE DRAFT REPORT TO BE CONSIDERED BETWEEN NOW AND EARLY SEPTEMBER AND AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

3. AS FOR THE DRAFT REPORT ITSELF, LANGUETIN IS CONCERNED THAT IT NOT CONTAIN CONCRETE PROPOSALS OR OFFERS. HE BELIEVES THAT IN THIS AS IN OTHER AREAS RELATED TO THE DIALOGUE, THERE SHOULD BE FULL AGREEMENT ON WHAT SORT OF PROBLEMS ARE FACED BY THE OECD COUNTRIES AND ON THE NATURE OF THOSE PROBLEMS. ONLY THEN WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO FORMULATE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

4. THE SWISS AGREE WITH THE U.S. POSITION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOURTH COMMISSION (PARA 7 REFTEL).

5. SWISS OFFICIALS PARTICIPATING IN THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WOULD NOT BE THE SAME AS THOSE ATTENDING THE IMF-WORLD BANK MEETING. THEY ARE WILLING TO MEET AT THE SAME TIME AS THOSE MEETINGS, BUT WOULD PREFER TO MEET AFTERWARDS SO AS TO AVOID THE PROBLEMS WHICH COULD ARISE DUE TO CONFLICTING DEMANDS ON THE TIME OF OTHERS ATTENDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BERN 03063 251011Z

THE IMF MEETINGS.

6. LANGUETIN ASKED US TO CONVEY THE STRONG SWISS DESIRE TO BE, AS HE PUT IT, EFFECTIVELY REPRESENTED AT A RESUMED DIALOGUE. WHEN PRESSED AS TO WHETHER THIS MEANT INSISTENCE ON DIRECT SWISS REPRESENTATION HE SAID THAT THE MODALITIES COULD BE WORKED OUT BUT THAT INDIRECT REPRESENTATION AS ONE OF A GROUP OF NEUTRALS WAS NOT

VERY SATISFACTORY.

7. EMBASSY COMMENT: IT SEEMED CLEAR THAT FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER THE SWISS DEALING WITH IEA MATTERS FEEL THAT THEY ARE TOO PRESSED FOR TIME: THERE IS OFTEN NOT ENOUGH TIME TO STUDY THE RESULTS OF ONE MEETING BEFORE DISCUSSING THEM IN THE NEXT. NO DOUBT SOME OF THIS FEELING WAS REFLECTED IN LANGUETIN'S COMMENTS. AS A PART OF THIS, HOWEVER, AND A BASIC CONCERN, IS THE SWISS DESIRE TO GO INTO A RESUMED DIALOGUE ON THE BASIS OF THE MAXIMUM LEVEL OF AGREEMENT AMONG THE OECD COUNTRIES ON, AS THEY PUT IT, "THE SUBSTANCE.". ODELL

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